

CHES

The Chess Editor bids Adieu to His Readers—Exchanges and Contributors Give Hearty Thanks for Past Favors To My Chess Friends:

"Good-bye" is hard to say, notwithstanding the poet has assured us that parting is such a sweet sorrow. Inasmuch as I am obliged to discontinue The Independent chess column, and stand on all my other chess projects, it is due to my friends that some explanation be made. A personal letter to each is at this time impracticable, and I must be content to say my say through The Independent.

In a general way I desire to corroborate the testimony of those who have claimed so much for chess. To me it seems much too serious a study to ever serve as a mere game; but if it be regarded as a mere pastime, there are few who, holding such opinion, really appreciate its beauty. With me chess is work—hard work, severe mental strain, long hours of study, the burning of much midnight oil. Recently it has become more than that—it has become a passion, a habit which was injuring my physical health. It may be a confession of weakness to make this admission—but grant that, and what is one to do? Simply quit, as it seems to me.

I have no regrets for the many hours employed in studying chess—but one should not make chess the chief aim of life, and its fascination is so great for me that I must simply give it up. The habit can be broken now—but I am not sure it could be a year or two hence. DeQuincey told the world something about the opium habit. I desire to avoid giving the world "De France's Confessions of a Chess Friend," unless you choose to call this farewell such.

First, permit me to take leave of my exchanges. As soon as convenient my name should be cut off every exchange list. Brothers Walcott of the Boston Post, Helms of the Brooklyn Eagle, Jacobs of the Burlington Hawkeye and Des Moines Leader, Spencer of the St. Paul Dispatch, "Miron" of the N. Y. Clipper, Undergraff of the Guthrie, Napier of the Pittsburgh Dispatch, Dr. Graham of Checkmate, McPeak of the American Chess World, the editor of the Literary Digest, British Chess Magazine, Sachovy Listy, San Antonio Light, "each and all of them are hereby and heretofore" (to quote Spencer) and "Miron" know the correct legal verbiage) bidden farewell and God-speed. May they always be able to enjoy chess without becoming a slave to it!

Second, I must say good-bye and God-speed to the Pillsbury National Correspondence Chess association, that greatest of all associations for dissemination of knowledge regarding the royal game. President Parke and all his able lieutenants deserve a greater meed of praise than my feeble pen can translate into understandable English. To them and the members in the Midland Division in particular, and the whole membership in general, are extended my heartiest good wishes.

Third, the members of the Nebraska Chess association are hereby extended greetings and farewell. My resignation as your secretary has been filed to take effect New Year. As a parting word, I would suggest that the due be reduced to 25 cents a year, in order to secure a larger membership. The players of Texas are anxious for a match and should be accommodated as possible. Our interstate matches in the past have brought about many firm and lasting friendships. To Van Nuys and Van Noorden of Ohio, Gibson and Voss of Kansas, McGrath and Hooker of Mississippi, and Hunt and Harmer of Iowa, are due not only my best wishes, but also the thanks of every chess enthusiast for their untiring efforts in making a hobby of their uniform kindness and courtesy to all with whom they have dealings.

Fourth, contributors and solvers of The Independent come in last because they are nearest my heart. The suspension and final discontinuance of this column, with the consequent breaking with all the pleasant associations which grew up with it, is the hardest task I have to perform. Yet it seems to me imperative that I take the step. Other duties require substantially all my spare time. The cup is bitter, but must be drunk to the dregs. No fashionable sipping will suffice. Mere mention of the names of all my friends secured as a result of The Independent column would encroach on the limited space accorded me for this farewell. I shall ever look back to this period of my life with the feeling that I had formed the acquaintance and had the friendship of the salt of the earth. I cannot refrain from mentioning by name Young, Barry, Walcott, Very, Gamage, Dyar and others of Massachusetts; Dr. Sleeper of N. H.; Dr. Anthony, Hickey, and others of N. Y.; Napier, Longacre, Younkens and others of Pa.; Oldham of W. Va.; Robbins, Dr. Ormsbee, Cowles, Mead and others of Mo.; Edwards, Undergraff, Hunt, Harmer, McGrath, Hooker, Reece, Smith and others of Mississippi; Middleton and others of Texas—but the task is so long; that I have to stop for the purposes of this publication.

In this connection, a number have paid subscriptions in advance for permanently cured. We can only promise you a cure—no matter how your condition—Internal, External, Rheumatic, Chronic or Recent, without undergoing any surgical operation. Thousands cured who had given up in despair of ever getting relief.

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kills, not necessarily suddenly, but SURELY. It preys upon the intellectual powers more than we realize. It consumes the vitality faster than nature can replenish it, and we cannot tell just what moment a temporary or complete aberration of the mind will result. Headache and pain should be promptly removed—but properly. Many pain cures are more harmful than the pain. Beware. If you would be safe, take

Dr. Miles' Pain Pills.

"As a result of neuralgia I lost the sight of my right eye, and the pain I have suffered is incomprehensible, being obliged to take opiates almost continually. A friend gave me one of Dr. Miles' Pain Pills and it promptly relieved me. I then purchased a box and now my trouble is gone. They have also cured my daughter of nervous headache, and I heartily recommend them to others."—W. J. CORLEY, Bremond, Texas.

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"Castles," the correspondence chess magazine I had contemplated publishing, I am now checking through nearly a bushel of accumulated letters, and immediately after the first of next year will return the various amounts paid me. The magazine could be taken up by some one with sufficient leisure time and means to make it a success. I suppose that Checkmate's list and the materials could be purchased at reasonable cost of Dr. Graham, Prescott, Ott, and I have a list of nearly 3,500 good names and addresses, each on a separate card and alphabetically arranged by states, that could be used to advantage by the prospective publisher in pushing his magazine.

In conclusion, a copy of The Independent is this week sent to all my chess friends. Consider it a good-bye hand clap and my best wishes for your continued success in every undertaking.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. CHAS. Q. DE FRANCE, No. 1836 So. 25th st., Lincoln, Neb.

Debating Clubs

The suggestion made by Mr. Bryan and so often urged by The Independent during the last few years that debating clubs be organized in the town and precincts all over the country, seems to have met with the indorsement of the people in many parts of the country. One has been organized in Denver and one in Lincoln. People of all shades of opinion on public questions are invited as speakers, which is the only way of making such meetings interesting to all. The program for the Lincoln club is as follows:

Dec. 22. Subject, "Can the material interest of the physician and his patients be made to harmonize under the present social system." Dr. H. S. Alek.

Dec. 29. Subject, "Can one be honest and succeed in business today." Dr. P. L. Hall.

Jan. 5. Subject, "Does territorial expansion in the U. S. conduce to social and economic progress." Judge Cornish.

Jan. 12. Subject, "Are trades unions an aid or hindrance to social and economic progress." C. A. Simmons.

Jan. 19. Subject, "The prime cause of industrial crisis or panics." Fred Herman.

Jan. 26. Subject, "The industrial revolution." Wulbur F. Bryant.

Feb. 2. Subject, "Should the working man be allowed to perform a political function." C. A. Simmons.

Feb. 9. Subject, "The classes, social and economic in modern society." A. C. Park.

Feb. 16. Subject, "What should political economy teach." Prof. H. J. Davenport.

Feb. 23. Subject, "The philosophy of history." A. E. Sheldon.

March 2. Subject, "Trade unions, past, present and future." S. J. Herman.

March 9. Subject, "What is the mission of the populist party today." Ex-Governor Poynter.

March 16. Subject, "What is the mission of the democratic party today." Jas. Manahan.

March 23. Subject, "What is the mission of the republican party today." C. H. Gere.

March 30. Subject, "What is the mission of the socialist labor party today." S. J. Herman.

April 6. Subject, "Who pays the taxes." Capt. L. W. Billingsley.

April 13. Subject, "The destiny of the middle class, socially and economically." T. H. Tibbles.

April 20. Subject, "Is the world tending toward democracy or imperialism." Dr. H. S. Alek.

April 27. Subject, "The evolution of machine production." W. L. Locke.

May 4. Subject, "What is the function of the state." O. W. Meier.

May 11. Subject, "Is charity a social curse or blessing." O. B. Folk.

May 18. Subject, "The evolution of property." A. C. Park.

May 25. Subject, "Wealth, capital and value defined." Prof. G. Langworthy Taylor.

June 1. Subject, "The primitive accumulation of the capitalist class." Dr. H. S. Alek.

June 8. Subject, "The philosophy of socialism." Mrs. Millie Herman.

The Commoner, \$1.35. Send your order to either paper at Lincoln, Neb.

CHAMP CLARK'S LETTER

(Special Washington Letter.)

THE Ohio Kilkenny cats are at it again. All that much vaunted harmony of which we heard so much in November has vanished like a dream, and Foraker, Hanna, Kurtz, Cox and company are clawing, yawling and caterwauling in most vigorous fashion. General Charles Dick has phenomenal luck in getting himself "mentioned" for big places. Six weeks ago he appeared to be easily in the lead for the governorship. Here lately his particular friends are booming him quietly for United States senator, though it is hardly possible that he could out the erstwhile fiery Foraker, and he would hardly desire to oust Mark, as the Cleveland boss has made General Dick what he is, or largely so.

But, really, Hanna, Foraker, Dick, Kurtz and all the rest of the bosses and leaders big and little have to take back seats when George B. Cox of Cincinnati goes on the warpath. He is really the biggest Republican in Ohio. He is a very Warwick and they all make obeisance to him. Those who know him well say that he possesses many good qualities, and he must have lots of brains to hold the primacy among Ohio Republicans as he has done now for several years. It's a wonder that he does not have himself elected governor or senator of the United States. In this day of commercial politics he would be strictly in the swim.

Democrats in Harmony.

In the meantime, while the Ohio Republicans are at each other's throat and pulling each other's hair, the Buckeye Democrats appear to be working in greater harmony than usual. Tom Johnson and John R. McLean appear to have buried the hatchet, and let it be hoped that they did not leave the handle sticking out. If Johnson and McLean would really form an alliance, offensive and defensive, there is no reason why they might not be governors, senators, vice presidents, cabinet ministers or even presidents. Stranger things have happened in this world and stranger things will happen again. They are two strong men intellectually, and in the very flower of their years. By pulling together they could accomplish much.

Hon. John Jacob Lentz, who is waging a contest for a seat in the house of representatives from the capital district of Ohio, is surely possessed of faith that would move mountains. If he succeeds in his contest, he will be one of the wonders of the world.

Moody's Glass House.

Mr. Moody of Massachusetts in his pious and patriotic effort to deprive the state of Louisiana of representation in the house does not seem to have considered that he lives in a political glass house himself. They have in the old Bay State certain educational qualifications on suffrage very similar to those recently adopted by Louisiana and other southern states.

Senator McLaurin Out of It.

Senator John L. McLaurin of South Carolina is one of the most amiable of mortals; but, having made his political bed, he should be content to lie in it. Just why he should expect to desire to participate in a Democratic caucus it would be hard to tell. He appears to advocate all the things held dear by Republicans and by so doing takes himself out of the Democratic party and into the Republican. If a man lies down with dogs, he may expect to get up with fleas. The McLaurin movement in South Carolina never did amount to much, and when President Roosevelt died Booker Washington it was dead as the men who lived before the flood, for "negro supremacy" is the one thing that can always be relied on to unify the white people of the old Palmetto State.

Got Their Names in the Papers.

It is strange how small a thing will get a man's name printed in every newspaper in the United States. Before congress convened it was heralded far and wide that the minor parties had disappeared and only the two old regulars, the Republican and Democratic, held the forts, but on the 2d of December Judge Neville of Nebraska, to the surprise of everybody, bobbed up serenely and nominated Judge Stark of Nebraska for speaker and voted for him solus. This got both Neville's name and Stark's into just about every paper in America, although Judge Neville had no such purpose in nominating Judge Stark.

As Hon. James D. Richardson of Tennessee was too bashful to vote for himself for speaker, he voted for that splendid gentleman, Amos J. Cummings, which got Amos' name into the papers. Major McDowell, clerk of the house, recognized the humor of the situation, appointed Richardson, Stark and Cummings a committee to escort General Henderson to the stand, so that by having a sense of humor McDowell got his name into the papers. Taken all in all, it was a great day for "ads." For several clever and aspiring statesmen. Nobody begrudges them anything good in this life.

The Kaiser and Castro.

If it were not for the Monroe doctrine and the puissant republic back of

it, what Kaiser Wilhelm would do to President Castro would be a plenty. This Castro appears to be a crapsnoo, ill mannered upstart, going about with a chip on his shoulder and relying on us to support the Monroe doctrine. He is very much inclined to cut such fantastic capers as are calculated to make the angels weep. Really, while we are dead stuck on the Monroe doctrine, if the young kaiser could catch Castro off his reservation and give him a sound whaling we would think Billie had done a very good thing.

New York Bosses.

A rumor very much in need of confirmation comes from Gotham to the effect that Senator Thomas Collier Platt, the "easy boss," is about to retire from the leadership of the New York Republicans. Somehow New York bosses, either Democratic or Republican, do not retire until they are compelled to, and Mr. Platt is no exception to the rule. He will retire when his coffin lid is screwed down good and tight above his cadaver and not till then unless Colonel Teddy gets a good, strong grip on the nape of the Platt neck and the slack of Platt's pantaloons, in which case something may happen, as in the case of the late lamented Mr. McGinty when that excellent gentleman fell to the bottom of the coalhole.

Missouri and Maine.

Whether Oklahoma and the Indian Territory will come into the Union as one state or two, they will probably come in at this session of congress. If they are admitted as one state, it will be one of the finest in the rare and radiant sisterhood, and it would come in with four or five representatives in congress, the largest number any new state ever started with except Maine, which began with seven, has fallen to four and came near being reduced to three in the last congress. Missouri and Maine came in together, Maine with seven and Missouri with one. Now Missouri has sixteen, while Maine has only four, which proves that Democracy is superior to Republicanism.

Lodge Succeeds Hanna.

It is generally taken and accepted in and about Washington that Senator Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts occupies about the same place in President Roosevelt's affections that Senator Marcus A. Hanna occupied in President McKinley's. Roosevelt and Lodge are leaders in literary political circles, and both believe in the strenuous life. It is rather remarkable that two men so young should dominate things so completely. They are both of the blond style of beauty, are good dressers and fully up to the latest literary fads.

Second Class Mail Matter.

It seems that some things can't be settled in this world. For many years now many great and good men have spent a vast deal of energy and time trying to shut out of the mails as second class matter the bogus magazines and reprints of old books, which bring the government into debt. It has always been contended that the law is ample to accomplish the purpose. Some two months ago it was given out that Postmaster General Charles Emory Smith, an old and eminent newspaper man, had actually formulated a plan which would work all right, but there appears to be a hitch about it now. True, the deficit is not as large now as it was several years ago, but it is too large still. There is no reason why the postoffice department should not be self supporting—that is, no valid reason. Free rural mail delivery will become universal in a few years, and penny postage is almost in sight. Our postoffice department is the largest business concern on earth and has been a vast blessing to our people.

Stamping Out Anarchy.

A little common sense and vigorous action opportunely taken are sometimes worth ever so much of high flown theorizing. The people of Cleveland appear to have dropped on to a practical plan for doing the anarchists. While General Shattuck of Cincinnati and other distinguished statesmen were pestering their heads, inducing insomnia, to devise statutes to stamp out the reds a few hard headed American citizens of Cleveland, without laying any claims to even the rudimentary principles of statesmanship, appear to have hit the bull's eye precisely in the center, as the following dispatch shows:

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 8.—Public sentiment and the police today combined and succeeded in breaking up a meeting of the Liberty association, the Cleveland organization under whose auspices Emma Goldman, "the queen of the reds," delivered the lecture which is said to have derailed the brain of President McKinley's assassin, Leon Czolgosz. The first meeting of the association since the death of President McKinley was held a week ago today, and arrangements were made at that time for future meetings, rent money being paid to the proprietor of the hall in advance. Joseph E. Miller, the proprietor of the hall, rented the hall and permitted the first meeting to be held, not realizing that the association was the one which has long been spreading the dangerous doctrine of anarchy. During the week he was notified of the character of the association, and when the members assembled at the hall today and opened their meeting he offered the president of the association, Walter Bellin, to return the rent money and allow him to leave the hall. Bellin and other members refused to go, and the police were called. Under the threats of arrest the members of the association finally left the meeting place.

That's the way it should be done. Let the coppers throttle every "red" in the land, and they will soon see the folly of their course. Nothing succeeds like success. There is no room in this country for the reds. They will learn on frothing and cavoring about tonight they will be strung up some fine night by a preconcerted arrangement in every city and town in America. They are a lot of pestiferous idiots and ought to be thoroughly stamped out of every nook and corner of the republic.

Champs Clark

ended. It is admitted that much of the credit for the present large majority in the house is due to his wise advice and assistance, combined with conditions at large in the country. Now, with a reputation facing him from his own state delegation and the possibility of opposition in his own district, Babcock seems doomed.

Roosevelt Enjoys Himself.

President Roosevelt appears to enjoy himself hugely in the White House. Presidents Cleveland and McKinley stood at a large flat topped desk, and the visitors went to them. Not so with Colonel Roosevelt. He does the walking and most of the talking, swings round the circle and has something jolly and appropriate to say to every one. He has a good memory for names and faces—a most valuable quality in a public man. There is a hearty good will about what he does and says which goes far toward making people comfortable.

When I called on the president Senator Jonathan Prentiss Dolliver of Iowa was there. As I looked at the handsome and well groomed brunette I could not help recalling the line, "So near and yet so far." If Platt, Quay et al. had not forced the vice presidential nomination on Colonel Roosevelt, the chances are ten to one that Dolliver would now be president. He was unquestionably the prime favorite for the position till Thomas Collier Platt and Matthew Stanley Quay worked their rabbit foot on Teddy and unwittingly made a president when they were merely trying to make a vice president.

New Cabinet Officer.

It really looks as if a new cabinet position is to be created, to be known as the department of commerce, though it will be difficult to define the duties of the office. But there is no trouble to create a new office or to raise the salary of an old one. It is only when the effort is made to abolish an old office or to reduce the emoluments thereof that the tug of war comes. Just why a bureau of commerce could not be created in the agricultural department which would answer every purpose and save much money is one of those things which it appears that no fellow can find out.

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Champs Clark

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Tourist Sleepers—Personally conducted—every Thursday and Saturday, Omaha, Lincoln, Fairmont, Hastings and Holdrege to San Francisco; every Wednesday and Thursday, Kansas City, St. Joseph, Wymore, Superior and Oxford to San Francisco and Los Angeles.

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If you're going to California, you will be interested in our new 40-page folder, "California Tours—1901-'02." It is free.

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Judicial Common Sense

Good common sense will command more respect for the bench than anything else. Contempt proceedings have become so frequent of late that the people are losing what little respect they had for the judges. They submit to judicial decisions and abide by them, but respect for the courts has been growing less and less ever since the judges undertook to make law, then interpret it and afterwards enforce it without the assistance of a jury. A recent opinion handed down by a judge in Chicago concerning the arrest of an imprisonment of an editor and reporter on the Chicago American goes far toward restoring the bench to some degree of respectability. The judge said:

"I see no reason why a judge should have a different remedy for attacks in the public prints than a president, a governor, or a congressman. Certainly criticism of a public official, if not harmful, will do good; if unjust, it will do no harm."

In concluding the court said: "I am clearly of the opinion that the language used in open court by Judge Haney amounted to a final order disposing of the case under consideration, and that being a final order, under the doctrine of 'contempt' as laid down in this state by our supreme court in the case of Storey against the people, that the relators had a right to comment and criticize that decision, even to the extent of libeling the honored and respected judge who rendered that opinion, without exposing themselves to prosecution for contempt of court."

Free Homes

Washington, D. C., Dec. 11.—(Special Correspondence.)—The B. & M. 25c for cost of boxing and drayage.

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